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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE Miami	OFFICE OF ORIGIN Miami	DATE JUL 5 1963	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/12 - 6/25/63
TITLE OF CASE COUNCIL FOR STATEHOOD, aka Freeman (u)		REPORT MADE BY ROBERT W. WISEMAN	TYPED BY :bjc
		CHARACTER OF CASE RACIAL MATTERS IS - X	CC TO: <i>Commence</i> REQ. REC'D... <i>7-8</i> JUL 23 1964 ANS. <i>John R.</i> BY: <i>John R.</i>

REFERENCES

Report of SA ROBERT W. WISEMAN dated 2/8/63,
at Miami.

Miami airtel to Bureau dated 5/9/63.

Bureau airtel to Miami dated 6/5/63.

Miami airtels to Bureau dated 6/25/63 and
6/26/63.

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DATE 5/7/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK
223256

LOS ANGELES AND OMAHA (INFORMATION) (u)

Information copies of this report are being furnished
to Los Angeles and Omaha in view of investigation currently in
progress within these divisions which pertained to the Council
for Statehood. (u)

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
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MIAMI

AT WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

Will follow and report the activities of instant organization.

- ADMINISTRATIVE -

The information set forth in this report from the Security Exchange Bank of West Palm Beach was made available by [redacted] of (u) the Security Exchange Bank of West Palm Beach, Florida.

- INFORMANTS -

<u>Identity</u>	<u>Location</u>
MM T-1 is	[redacted]
[redacted]	

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[redacted]
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

- 1 - Office of Naval Intelligence, Miami, Florida (RM)
- 1 - Office of Special Investigations, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia (RM)
- 1 - G-2, Ft. McPherson, Georgia (RM)

Copy to:

Report of:

ROBERT W. WISEMAN

Office:

Miami, Florida

Date:

JUL 5 1963

Field Office File #:

157-739

Bureau File #:

157-758

Title:

COUNCIL FOR STATEHOOD

Character:

RACIAL MATTERS;
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Synopsis:

Meetings continued intermittently, February, through March, 1963, at home of Mr. and Mrs. WALTER B. JACKSON, Boynton Beach, Fla., and at the home of [redacted] Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Organizations bank account at West Palm Beach, Fla., reviewed. Several members attended Congress for Freedom (CFF) Convention at New Orleans, La., April, 1963, wherein allegation made that this group would resort to assassinations if the influence of the Council on Foreign Affairs (CFA) over U. S. policy not mitigated through legislation. Individual members interviewed who were in attendance at this convention deny these allegations or any intentions of any acts of violence.

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MM 157-739

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES.....	2
II. REVIEW OF BANK ACCOUNT.....	38
III. INTERVIEWS WITH MEMBERS.....	72

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MM 157-739

DETAILS:

I. MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

MM T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that on the evening of February 12, 1963, a meeting for the Council for Statehood was held at the home of ~~WALTER B. JACKSON~~, 728 Northeast 9th Avenue, Boynton Beach, Florida. There were approximately ten or eleven persons in attendance.

During the meeting, the current letter being sent to all patriots throughout the country was discussed and there was also a discussion on future letters. The next letter will show "proof" that KENNEDY is a tool of the United Nations and that the Armed Forces of the United States are under the control of the Russian general through agreement with the United Nations. (u)

It was noted that ~~Major ARCH ROBERTS~~ of the Armed Forces, will attend the meeting of the Council for Statehood in the near future. FLH

It was noted that [redacted] who is believed to be from Cleveland, Ohio, operates a [redacted]

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File
[redacted]
It was noted that [redacted] and MARY DAVISON are splitting up the organization to gain control of the funds. Noticeably absent at this meeting were [redacted] and [redacted] who are feuding with [redacted] and DAVISON. Also noticeably absent at this meeting were [redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] These individuals are apparently in agreement with [redacted] and opposed to DAVISON and [redacted]

A characterization of the Council for Statehood is attached hereto and sources therein have furnished reliable information in the past.

On February 19, 1963, [redacted]

[redacted] Boynton Beach, Florida, was contacted at her request. [redacted] has been known to have been affiliated with various anti-Communist activities in this general area for several years, and during a previous contact, voluntarily admitted to membership in the John Birch Society. Independent investigation had established that [redacted] has been in attendance at two meetings of the Council for Statehood held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. WALTER JACKSON, 728 Northeast 9th Avenue, Boynton Beach, Florida.

At the inception of the interview on February 19, 1963, [redacted] divulged that for several weeks she has been attending at the home of her friend [redacted] a meeting of patriots. [redacted] stated that this meeting or study group of patriots from this area had taken the name of the Council for Statehood and that the leadership of this group is principally Mrs. MARY DAVISON, who in [redacted] opinion, is a very fine student of the United States Constitution and the United Nations Charter. According to [redacted] understanding, this group is principally concerned with the federal encroachment on the rights of individual states and the conflict between the United States Constitution and the United Nations Charter.

MM 157-739

[] states that it is her conviction that the patriots attending these group discussions are all loyal American citizens and only interested in acquainting leaders in state government with facts which indicate that the Federal Government is gradually taking over certain states' rights guaranteed under the United States Constitution. The means used by this group is the printing and dissemination of literature and the mailing of this printed matter to the leaders in state government.

[] stated that also in attendance at the meetings she attended was an individual named [] first name not recalled. She advised that she wished to bring to the attention of the FBI that this person made several rather violent, derogatory, and obscene remarks of an anti-Semitic nature. This same person was also offensive in her opinion with his criticism of the course of study on Communism now in effect in the public schools of the State of Florida. She continued saying that Mr. JOHN LANIER, also in attendance and who is an active member of the Sons of the American Revolution in Palm Beach County, took exception with [] over his anti-Semitic comments and stated that such discussion was not in accord with the feelings of the group. It was also indicated that [] who has been handling the records and finances of this study group, was not handling them to the satisfaction of the membership.

[] continued saying that another matter which occurred during one of the meetings which she wished to bring to the attention of this Bureau was as follows:

On the evening of February 12, 1963, several unexpected guests arrived at Mrs. JACKSON's residence, one a [] (FNU) [] came alone, saying he was from Ft. Lauderdale, and would be later joined by two of his friends, named [] and []. Later these two individuals, [] and [] did arrive, [] claiming to be an attorney and [] Governor JOHN BRICKER in the

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MM 157-739

State of Ohio. [] represented himself as formerly connected with the "Chicago Tribune" now vacationing in Pompano Beach, Florida. When [] first arrived, Mrs. JACKSON assisted him in taking off his raincoat, and his suit coat slipped partially off his shoulder, and Mrs. JACKSON noted what she thought was a transistor tape recorder strapped under his arm. [] claimed, however, that this was a case that he used to carry his picture slides in and thereafter distributed several copies of the "Chicago Tribune" to those in attendance. During this meeting when the opportunity presented itself, both [] and [] made remarks which according to both [] and Mrs. JACKSON were violently anti-Semitic, and spoke in a very uncouth manner concerning Hebrews and Zionists.

[] stated that she and Mrs. JACKSON became concerned after the meeting because of the activities of these three uninvited guests, who they believe may have been attempting to give the organization a bad name by their uncouth remarks of an anti-Semitic nature.

At the conclusion of this interview, [] stated that she has no knowledge that this study group that used the name Council for Statehood is involved in any activities of violence; in fact, she is certain that the membership are not interested or have any intentions of violence, and only wish to acquaint interested parties by sending out their literature to the threat of Communism in the United States.

MM T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that a meeting of the Council for Statehood was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. WALTER B. JACKSON in Boynton Beach, Florida, on the evening of March 12, 1963.

It was noted that [] furnished a check to [] in the amount of \$26.80 for expenses and the check was drawn on the Security Exchange Bank of West Palm Beach, Florida.

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Present at this meeting were approximately eight or nine persons.

The meeting centered around a discussion of the "Eskimos" a code name to be used when referring to Jews. In addition to this discussion, a recording was played regarding a speech made by MARY DAVISON for the Daughters of the American Revolution. In a private discussion, WALTER JACKSON indicated he would like to see more action and less talk concerning the "Eskimos." He also indicated that they were very happy to get rid of [redacted] because he was planning nothing and was only in the organization for whatever money he could get. (u)

MM T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that on the evening of March 28, 1963, a meeting of the Council for Statehood was held at the home of [redacted] Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. There were approximately eight or nine persons present at this meeting.

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MM 157-739

This meeting concerned the forthcoming convention scheduled to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, during the first week of April, 1963. It was noted that [redacted] and [redacted] are planning to take a plane to New Orleans, whereas the JACKSONs, MARY DAVISON, and JOHN LANIER are leaving by automobile on April 1, 1963. [redacted] is also supposed to drive his car, as is [redacted] and their cars will be loaded with literature for distribution at the convention and they may be accompanied by other individuals. (u)

It was noted that the meeting in New Orleans will be held in conjunction with the Congress of Freedom, Inc., and a merger between the two organizations into one group will be discussed. (u)

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MM 157-739

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1.

MM T-1, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 15, 1963, that he had attended the Congress of Freedom, Inc. (COF) convention which was held at the Fontainebleau Motel-Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana, April 4, 5 and 6, 1963. The following information was furnished by the source on April 15 and 24, 1963:

CONGRESS OF FREEDOM

There were approximately 600 to 700 individuals in attendance at the convention, who were from all sections of the United States. All sessions of the convention were well attended and it was observed that the convention hall was not large enough to hold all of the individuals at the same time.

The COF, with headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska, has for approximately twelve years held an annual convention at various locations throughout the United States. The leadership of the COF has remained basically the same; however, the officers have changed during the twelve year period. All arrangements and preparations for the New Orleans convention were handled by the officers and leaders of the COF. The COF invited approximately seven or eight other groups to attend and address the New Orleans convention. Some of these groups in attendance, which is not all inclusive, were the Council for Statehood (CFS), Citizens Council of New Orleans, Dixie Klan of Tennessee, Constitution Government of Georgia, and a group, name unknown, headed by one [redacted] of Louisville, Kentucky. (u)

Present and identified at the New Orleans convention were the following individuals, who are members of the Council for Statehood, with headquarters in West Palm Beach, Florida:

MARY M. DAVISON, secretary and founder
of the Council for Statehood, West Palm
Beach, Florida

ARTHUR BOHN, attorney, Fort Lauderdale,
Florida

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Original shows as duplicate but I can't find it anywhere. Processing to match rest of case. Similar information is in Sec. 2 page 57-58 but not the entire page.

MM 157-739

2.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR STATEHOOD

[redacted] Fort Lauderdale,
Florida, and [redacted]
[redacted] North Miami, Florida

Mr. and Mrs. WALTER JACKSON, Boynton Beach,
Florida

JOHN ~~L~~ANIER, West Palm Beach, Florida

[redacted]
[redacted] West Palm Beach, Florida

[redacted] Miami, Florida

[redacted] West Palm Beach, Florida

[redacted]
[redacted] West Palm Beach, Florida

It was observed that all of the above individuals
resided at the Fontainebleau Motel-Hotel while attending
the convention except [redacted] and [redacted]
who were registered at the Plaza Motel. (u)

In addition to the members of the Council for
Statehood that were present at the convention, the follow-
ing were present and in attendance at the convention and are
the only individuals personally known to the source:

OF THE COUNCIL OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS, INC., 1964, 1965, 1966

L.A.

[redacted]
[redacted] in the Professional Building, 2418
Travis Street, Houston, Texas, who source
believed was representing a high-ranking
group of individuals who were not present
at the convention.

U.B.

[redacted]
St. Albans, West Virginia.

[redacted] reportedly [redacted] of
the States Rights Party, New Orleans,
Louisiana.

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OF THE "CONGRESS OF FUTURE T.B. P.R. 4, AND 6, 11."

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Wichita, Kansas.

New Orleans,
Louisiana, a member of the Citizens Council of
New Orleans.

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of Greenville, South Carolina.

J. A. MILTEER of Quitman, Georgia, who is a
past candidate for governor of the State of
Georgia and reportedly leader of Constitu-
tional Government of Georgia. MILTEER is the
representative of the Dixie Klan of Tennessee
in the State of Georgia. The Dixie Klan of
Tennessee reportedly has headquarters in
Chattanooga, Tennessee and is headed by two

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In conversation with MILTEER, it was pointed out
to the source that the Dixie Klan of Tennessee is coopera-
ting with the COF and is in agreement with their program. (u)

During the course of the convention, MILTEER
and an unknown individual were observed making a tape
recording of the entire convention, and it is understood
through conversation with MILTEER that the tape recordings
will be available for purchase at a later date.

The source noted he has been a member of the CFS
since the latter part of 1962 and this organization has
state chairmen in 36 states, who act as coordinators
within their respective states for the CFS. The CFS
program involves the distribution of literature through
the coordinators mentioned above to all Federal and state
legislators, as well as governors of states and interested
individuals in civilian life. The CFS maintains a secret
fund, which is being obtained through contributions,
membership dues and fees, as well as requests for money
throughout the State of Florida and 35 other states. Their
program includes associating themselves with the COF
in that organization's program of eliminating the Council
on Foreign Relations through legislation, if possible;
however, if it is not possible, the COF will resort to

MM 157-739

4.

eliminating the Council on Foreign Relations through assassinations. It is pointed out, however, that according to the source, there are no plans relative to assassinations in the foreseeable future. The information regarding the elimination of the Council on Foreign Relations by assassination was furnished to the source while discussing the CFS and COF by MARY DAVISON and [redacted] who are active in the CFS.

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A characterization of the Council for Statehood is attached hereto and sources therein have furnished reliable information in the past.

The meetings of the New Orleans convention were held in the morning and afternoon in the main hall of the Fontainebleau Motel-Hotel. There were no secret or closed door sessions described as such; however, there were various committee meetings held during the evening hours with only the committee members permitted to attend. It is known to the source that MARY DAVISON and ARTHUR BOHN attended some of these meetings and it is believed that [redacted] may also have attended some of the committee meetings.

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The principal speakers at the convention are identified in the convention program as follows:

ARTHUR G. BLAISIE, a doctor from Washington, Indiana.

ARTHUR BLAISIE

[redacted]
Oklahoma.

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Mrs. WILLARD O. HEDRICK of Houston, Texas, a former teacher and national director of the Speakers Institute of Chicago.

Mrs. OPAL TANNER WHITE.

GEORGE S. MONTGOMERY, JR., New York City, an attorney involved in corporation and financial law in New York City.

MM 157-739

5.

MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION
THE CONGRESS OF THE FUTURE, APRIL 4

Professor R. P. OLIVER, Urbana, Illinois,
a professor of classics at the University
of Illinois.

[redacted] Los Angeles, California, an

[redacted]

[redacted] Oklahoma City, Oklahoma,

[redacted]

[redacted]

of the Congress
of Freedom, Summit, Mississippi.

[redacted] Mount Vernon, Ohio,

[redacted] of the Independent Farmers of
Ohio and [redacted] of the Farmers
for America.

[redacted] Gulfport, Mississippi,

[redacted] of the Dixie Press and [redacted] of
the Dixie Guide of Gulfport, Mississippi.

[redacted] Houston, Texas,

[redacted] of St. Thomas Episcopal Church,
Houston. (u)

[redacted] Kansas City, Missouri,

[redacted] in Kansas City.

ARTHUR J. BOHN, Fort Lauderdale, Florida,
attorney.

[redacted] Omaha, Nebraska, one of

the [redacted] of the Congress for
Freedom and one of its vice presidents.

AUSTIN T. FLETT, an insurance broker of Chicago. *Il/10*

~~AUGUST FLETT~~

GEORGE SOULE, New Orleans, Louisiana, past
chairman of the National Congress of Freedom.

MARY M. DAVISON, West Palm Beach, Florida, one of the directors of the Congress of Freedom.

Regarding speeches made by the afore-mentioned speakers, the source said he could not recall what was said by each individual speaker or the various statements made except in a very general way and as reflected below.

Professor R. P. OLIVER of the University of Illinois made a lengthy speech in which he was very anti-KENNEDY and anti-EISENHOWER administrations and spoke out strongly against the United Nations.

[redacted] of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, made a strong anti-KENNEDY administration speech and accused KENNEDY of being soft on communism.

[redacted] also spoke out strongly against the KENNEDY administration, as well as the Internal Revenue Department.

ARTHUR BLAISIE, a doctor from Washington, Indiana, spoke at length, criticizing the United Nations, the Council on Foreign Relations, as well as the EISENHOWER and KENNEDY administrations.

[redacted] of Houston, Texas, made a short speech on communism and stated that this country was being taken over by the Communists but as free, religious people, this could never be accomplished.

[redacted] of Kansas City, Missouri, spoke very strongly against KENNEDY, saying KENNEDY was soft on communism and was more or less cooperating with KHRUSHCHEV and CASTRO.

ARTHUR BOHN of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, discussed his plan to force the United States out of the United Nations through the Supreme Court. At the conclusion of his speech, numerous questions were raised and it was generally felt that his plan would not be successful.

MM T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that Major ARCH ROBERTS, United States Army Reserve, gave a speech at the Town House Motor Hotel, at West Palm Beach, Florida, on the evening of May 1, 1963.

Spoke at T-1 This speech was under the sponsorship of the Council for Statehood and also on the program was an Attorney ARTHUR BONE of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, who spoke on the Constitution of the United States and various Supreme Court decisions. MARY DAVISON, the leader of the Council for Statehood, was also on this program, and she in turn introduced Major ARCH ROBERTS.

ROBERTS spoke at length on the United Nations and how the United Nations was controlling the United States. He indicated that treason was being committed against the United States by various members of the State Department and further stated we do not have a federal government but a government under the leadership of the United Nations, and that it would be necessary at some future date to stop these people in the United Nations. (u)

It was noted that no tickets were sold as previously planned, but instead, a collection was taken up. According to MARY DAVISON, this was done to eliminate the tax problem.

It was further noted that [redacted] was active in selling literature published by MARY DAVISON at this meeting.

The "Palm Beach Post," a daily newspaper in West Palm Beach, Florida, on March 21, 1963, carried an article under the caption, "Subversive Charges Hit By Dr. Manor."

[redacted]
[redacted] took issue in this article with the "subversive teachings" brought by several individuals at a meeting of the Board of Public Instruction on March 20, 1963. The article went on to say that a Mrs. WALTER B.

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MM 157-739

JACKSON of the Jonathan Dickinson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and a companion, [redacted] alleged that several teachers at the Palm Beach Junior College were guilty of subversive teachings, which apparently resulted over criticism of an essay on Americanism written by a Junior College student. Mrs. JACKSON also leveled a blanket accusation of subversive teachings of the United Nations, a controversial subject, and world government by the Palm Beach Junior College staff.

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The "Palm Beach Post," a daily newspaper in West Palm Beach, Florida, April 18, 1963, put in an article captioned, "Palm Beach Junior College Teachers Cleared of Charges."

This article went on to say that the "subversive teachings" charges heard by the Palm Beach County Board of Public Instruction on April 17, 1963, resulted in not a single accusing witness appearing to substantiate the charges made at a previous meeting. Those who failed to appear and substantiate their charges were the following:

(u)

Mrs. WALTER B. JACKSON of Boynton Beach;

[redacted] of Briny Breezes; *Florida*

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[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] of Lake Worth, Florida.

[redacted] stated, "No competent evidence of subversive teachings have been submitted to this Board, either in person or in writing."

MM 157-739

II. REVIEW OF BANK ACCOUNT

(u)

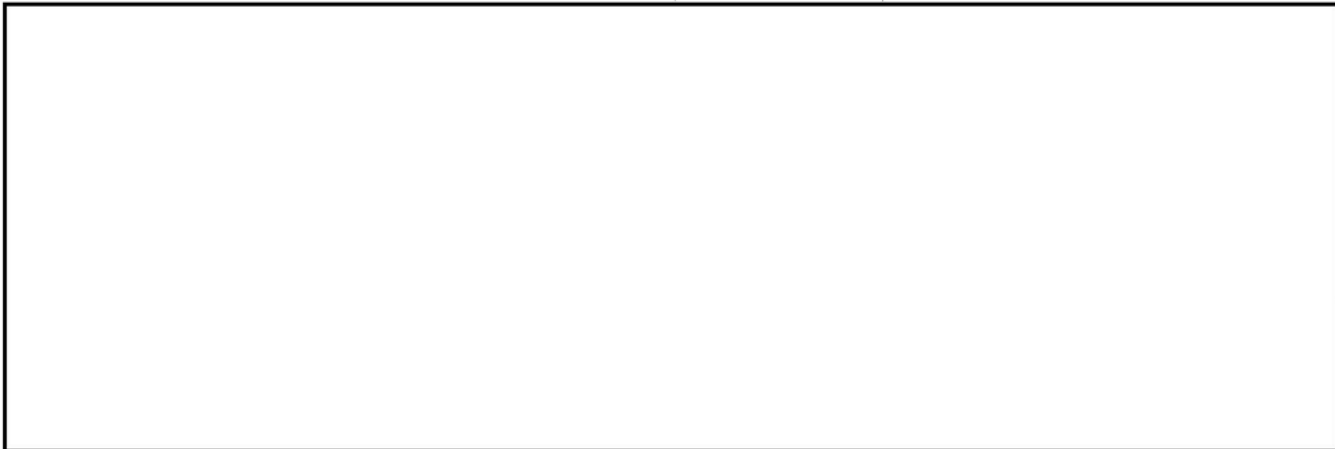
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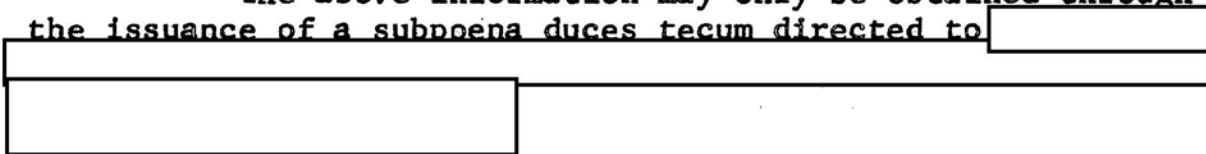
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The above information may only be obtained through
the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum directed to



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III. INTERVIEWS WITH MEMBERS (w)

Date May 20, 1963~~MARY M. DAVISON~~

Mrs. MARY M. DAVISON, 710 Summitt Boulevard, West Palm Beach, Florida, during interview on May 8, 1963, furnished the following information:

~~MARY M. DAVISON~~

Mrs. DAVISON stated that she attended the conference of the Congress For Freedom, Inc., in New Orleans, Louisiana, during the first week of April, 1963, and that she represented her organization known as the Council For Statehood. She said that the aims and objectives of her organization, as well as those of the Congress For Freedom, are to acquaint the people of the sovereign states, through correspondence, that their constitutional rights are being taken away by Federal Agencies.

Member of

This correspondence is prepared and sent by her group to representatives in the various states who in turn furnish the information to influential persons, including Senators and Representatives. It is her hope that through this means there will develop an interest in the preservation of these rights with an ultimate goal of having a constitutional convention called in the future. She stated there has not been a constitutional convention for nearly 200 years and it seems necessary that the Constitution be reviewed and the individual states are permitted to assume their rightful function in the United States Government.

Mrs. DAVISON remarked that in her opinion the United Nations is in violation of the Constitution and she believes she has factual proof to back up this opinion. (u)

Mrs. DAVISON stated that with regard to her organization, "Council For Statehood," two resolutions were passed when the organization was first formed in the fall of 1962:

- (1) prohibiting speaking against the Jews and
- (2) prohibiting the mention or discussion of any acts of violence in any form whatever.

She said that she will have nothing to do with anyone who advocates or suggests any form of violence. She stated that if the present plans to arouse interest in a con-

-73-

On 5/8/63 at West Palm Beach, Florida File # Miami 157-739

by SAs [redacted] & R. W. WISEMAN:bdd Date dictated 5/14/63

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stitutional convention fail, the people in the various states will just have to give up. She added that there is no other possible action to take and any violent action would be completely out of the question.

Mrs. DAVISON divulged that her organization locally consists of about 20 persons who assist her in sending out her correspondence to the Council For Statehood representatives in various states.

Mrs. DAVISON stated that she is competent to say that all members of her local group are good citizens, none of whom believe in any acts of violence and all know full well that this is not the answer under any circumstances. (u)

Mrs. DAVISON concluded by saying that she knows no one, either in the "Council For Statehood," or otherwise who advocate assassinations or acts of violence of any kind in resolving differences with Federal Agencies. She added that in her opinion, South Florida is less in favor of any acts of violence now than at any time in her memory.

Date May 20, 1963

[redacted] who is also known as [redacted]
[redacted] West Palm Beach, Florida, during
interview on May 8, 1963, furnished the following information:

[redacted] stated that he is a member of the Council
For Statehood and as a representative of this group attended
a conference of the Congress For Freedom, Inc., in New Or-
leans, Louisiana, during the first week of April, 1963.

[redacted] stated he has no recollection of ever
saying that he believed that acts of violence of any nature
or assassinations would be necessary in fulfilling the purpose
of the Council For Statehood. He stated that he is very much
against any acts of this nature and would not associate with
anyone or any groups advocating this action. He added that
since he has been a member of the "Council For Statehood," he
does not recall anyone of this group saying that violent acts
may become necessary in the future. (u)

[redacted] added that [redacted] and [redacted]
as well as [redacted] dropped their membership
in the Council For Statehood for personal differences and per-
sonality clashes as well as mutual consent. [redacted] declined
to comment further regarding the drop-out of these individuals from
the Council For Statehood.

-75-

On 5/8/63 at West Palm Beach, Florida File # Miami 157-739

by SAs [redacted] & R. W. WISEMAN:bdd Date dictated 5/14/63

Date May 20, 1963

[redacted]
Florida, telephonically contacted the Miami Office, on May 9, 1963, and requested an agent contact her regarding the Council For Statehood.

On May 10, 1963, [redacted] was contacted, at which time she furnished the following information:

She stated she was a close friend of Mrs. MARY M. DAVISON of West Palm Beach, Florida, who heads the Council For Statehood. She said that she recently agreed to mail out letters to various representatives in the State of Alabama for Mrs. DAVISON.

She related that these letters are written by Mrs. DAVISON and are addressed to Congressmen and Representatives. She stated that the letters are primarily to acquaint the people of the various states, through correspondence, regarding their constitutional rights which are being taken away by Agencies of the Federal Government.

She went on to relate that she is active in the Girl Scouts and she does not want to do anything that would reflect in any way on the Girl Scouts.

She advised that she had received a telephone call advising her that the FBI was making an inquiry regarding the Council For Statehood, and that she did not want to become involved in anything that was illegal.

She said that she has had her attorney check the most recently written letter by Mrs. DAVISON, and her attorney advised her that there is nothing wrong with the letter and there would be no violation of Federal law.

[redacted] stated that to her recollection, no one has ever advocated acts of violence or assassinations in fulfilling the purpose of the Council For Statehood.

-76-

On 5/10/63 at [redacted] Florida File # Miami 157-739

by SAs [redacted] Date dictated 5/14/63
[redacted] bdd

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Date June 21, 1963

[redacted]
North Palm Beach, Florida, advised that she did attend the conference for the Congress for Freedom, which met in New Orleans, Louisiana, during the first week of April, 1963, but not as a representative of the Council for Statehood since she had dropped out of this organization several weeks previously. She explained that she formerly was a member of the John Birch Society in this area and there became acquainted with MARY DAVISON. When Mrs. DAVISON organized the Council For Statehood, she and her husband joined together with [redacted] [redacted] with whom they had become acquainted in the John Birch Society. [redacted] stated that she just got tired of going to meetings and hearing so much repetition and decided to quit everything, both the Council For Statehood and the John Birch Society. She added that she had promised Mrs. DAVISON she would drive to New Orleans previously and went only to keep her promise.

[redacted] stated that she did not attend all of the meetings or speeches at New Orleans and has no knowledge of any closed or secret meetings. [redacted] stated she does not recall anyone saying or hinting that acts of violence, assassination or otherwise might be necessary if all legal means to halt the spread of communism failed. There was never any mention, to her knowledge, of any plan to learn to shoot or any mention that a member of the Council For Statehood had guns for this purpose. She stated that all meetings of the Council For Statehood, which she attended, were devoted to discussions of states rights, the United Nations and the Supreme Court actions.

[redacted] advised that the purpose of the Council For Statehood was to inform and educate individual state leaders to the dangers of not standing up for their states rights, hoping to enlist enough states support to call a Constitutional Convention in the future. The means used were letters and printed literature prepared by MARY DAVISON and others during these

On 6/14/63 at N. Palm Beach, Florida File # Miami 157-739

by SAs DOUGLASSE, WENDEL & ROBERT W. Date dictated 6/17/63

WISEMAN:mgw

MM 157-739

meetings of discussion, which were then sent to leaders in state government throughout the United States. At no time were any acts of violence mentioned or contemplated.

In conclusion [redacted] stated that she is a loyal American in all respects and respects law and order and only dropped out of the Council for Statehood and the John Birch Society because she was tired of going to meetings. She added that the [redacted] also dropped out because of her decision and that, to her knowledge, a [redacted] and [redacted] and [redacted] also dropped out, reason unknown.

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Date June 21, 1963

[redacted] advised that he has been active in the Council for Statehood since it was formed by Mrs. MARY DAVISON in October, 1962. He explained that this is subscription and solicitation organization and not actually a membership group. At present he has volunteered to assist Mrs. DAVISON in handling the mail and financial matters pertaining to the printing and mailing of her letters and other literature.

[redacted] pointed out that at their first meeting in October, 1962, he made two resolutions. One resolution was that no acts of violence would be discussed or contemplated by either the group or any individual member; secondly, there would be no anti-Jewish discussions or actions by any member of the group. Any violation of either of these resolutions would cause the expulsion of the party or parties responsible. [redacted] stated that since then all their efforts have been directed towards acquainting interested people with the feelings of this group as to the danger of communism and its spread in the United States. The means used and currently in use are letters and booklets prepared by Mrs. DAVISON. The main objective of the Council for Statehood is to acquaint leaders in state governments to the dangers of certain federal actions and to get support to call a constitutional convention to resolve some of problems and regain state rights which have been lost over the years. Interested persons throughout the United States are solicited for contributions to support the mailing activities of the Council for Statehood. (u)

[redacted] stated that only two persons have been expelled from the Council for Statehood for making violent statements and anti-Jewish statements in violation of the resolutions and these were [redacted] and [redacted]. [redacted] states he does not believe [redacted] really means what he says, is just a "loud mouth" and

-79-

On 6/17/63 at West Palm Beach, Florida File # Miami 157-739

by SAs DOUGLASS E. WENDEL & ROBERT W. WISEMAN:mgw Date dictated 6/17/63

MM 157-739

says things to get attention. [] does not recall any specific statements, only that they were against their resolutions.

[] attended the meeting of the Congress for Freedom in New Orleans, Louisiana, during April, 1963, as a representative of the Council for Statehood. He has no knowledge of any discussions which pertained to the assassination of anyone, by anyone at this meeting, and definitely no such statement was made by any member of the Council for Statehood group. [] has no knowledge of any secret meetings held by anyone at New Orleans, Louisiana.

[] indicated that several persons active in the Council for Statehood have become very concerned with inquiries by the FBI and quite perturbed that there is talk that the Council for Statehood advocates any overthrow of the U. S. Government or acts of violence to accomplish their purposes. [] indicated that several believe that [] may be the person responsible and wishes to say for himself and the Council for Statehood that any such ideas are entirely false, that their beliefs and efforts are clearly expressed in the letters and other material being sent to interested persons throughout the United States. The group has nothing to hide and are all loyal to the United States.

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Date June 21, 1963

Mr. JOHN F. LANIER, 820 Ridgeland Drive, West Palm Beach, Florida, at the inception of the interview, stated that he wished to clearly state that he is a loyal American in all respects, past president of the Sons of the American Revolution local chapter, is 80 years old and has spent a lifetime in the interests of the United States. He stated he would never affiliate himself with anyone advocating force or violence to achieve their aims and is a firm believer in due process of law under the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. LANIER admittedly is an active participant in the Council for Statehood and fully believes that this group and Mrs. MARY DAVISON are performing a valuable service to our country in attempting to awake the public to the threat of communism and the inroads that the federal government had made regarding sovereign states rights. Mr. LANIER stated that he personally has three objectives in life: 1) preservation of the Constitution of the United States 2) preservation of christianity, and 3) preservation of the white race. Mr. LANIER believes that these objectives can be reached by legal means and that the answer, which is the objective of the Council for Statehood, is to get state support to call a constitutional convention, at which time the inroads made by the federal government will be resolved and state sovereignty be re-established as it was meant to be under our constitution.

Mr. LANIER states that the Council for Statehood has made sure that everything they are attempting to do is entirely legal and have as their attorney a Mr. BOHN of Fort Lauderdale to provide the necessary legal counsel.

Mr. LANIER advised that there has never been any discussions in the Council for Statehood meetings of using any violent acts or assassinations to accomplish their purpose and this type of discussion was never had by anyone

-81-

On 6/17/63 at West Palm Beach, Florida File # Miami 157-739

by SA ROBERT W. WISEMAN:mgw Date dictated 6/17/63

to his knowledge, at the meeting of the Congress for Freedom in New Orleans, Louisiana, during April, 1963, at which he was in constant attendance. The Council for Statehood, at an early meeting, made definite resolutions not to advocate any anti-Jewish actions. He stated that he personally believes that the Zionists, who believe that all Jews should be citizens of Israel and their loyalty to the United States comes second, are a danger to the United States but that these are in a minority and most American Jews are loyal to the United States. Because one is bad does not make them all bad and advocating killing any of them is insanity.

Mr. LANIER added that only one member of the Council for Statehood has been expelled because of violent anti-Jewish remarks and this person was [redacted] Mr. LANIER stated he would only say that [redacted] on occasion spoke very bitterly concerning the Jewish race but never advocated killing any of them. Mr. LANIER claims that he was instrumental in [redacted] expulsion not only for making these statements but because he was not loyal to the Council for Statehood and was suspected of mismanaging council funds. Since his expulsion [redacted] has been very bitter towards the Council for Statehood and all its members and has made many false allegations concerning their objectives through a letter-writing campaign. (u)

In conclusion, Mr. LANIER stated he firmly believes that the communists will some day take over this country if the rights of the sovereign states are not restored and that a constitutional convention is the legal means of doing this, which is the only aim of the Council for Statehood. At no time has any force or violence entered into a discussion as a possible means of fulfilling this aim and anyone who says to the contrary is giving false information. Mr. LANIER recalled that the only mention made concerning guns and ammunition took place during an early meeting when someone, whom he does not recall, suggested that if the communists took over the United States, all the members should collect

MM 157-739

guns and ammunition to defend themselves against the aggressors. Mr. LANIER advised he spoke out against such action, pointing out that if the communists did take over, they would have all the armed services under control and all police agencies and any such type resistance would be foolish and to no avail. He added that since he is 80 years of age and has nothing to lose, he might take a few communists with him to the hereafter. He stated that this mention of guns had nothing to do with killing anyone except in defense of this country if the communists take over. (u)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 21, 1963~~ARTHUR J. BOHN~~

ARTHUR J. BOHN, Attorney At Law, 801 North Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, who maintains a residence at 304 S. E. 20th Street, furnished the following information.

He is not a member or subscriber to the Council For Statehood but has become affiliated with this organization as a result of his contact with Mrs. MARY M. DAVISON, West Palm Beach, Florida, leader of this group.

Since 1961 he has been campaigning to force the withdrawal of the United States from the United Nations by having the Supreme Court declare unconstitutional the acts which made this country a member of that organization. Since the Council For Statehood thinks along the same line, they have invited him on several occasions to help them in their efforts mainly by speaking before their group.

At the request of Mrs. DAVISON he drew up the charter for their organization and also was main speaker at the conference of the Congress for Freedom, Inc. in New Orleans, Louisiana, in April, 1963.

He explained that the Council of Statehood has subscribers, rather than members, who subscribe to weekly letters that set forth their policies. These letters in the past have been directed to federal legislators but the present policy is to direct them to state leaders and legislators since they hope through the states to have a constitutional convention called to review the constitution so that the individual states may secure their rightful place in the federal government. (u)

Their three main issues, listed in the order of importance, are getting the United States out of the United Nations; establishing a court of the union so that individual states can settle their own problems without having the matter referred to the Supreme Court, and fair apportionment.

On 6/17/63 at Fort Lauderdale, Florida File # Miami 157-739

by SAs JOSEPH I. GREALY & [redacted] Date dictated 6/17/63

mgw

MM 157-739

He is not aware of any advocacy of any form of violence on the part of this group and knows of no individual members that have ever advocated violence in any form whatsoever. Their objective, as his, is to obtain their goals through legal means. (u)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 21, 1963

[redacted]
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, furnished the following information.

LAL She is a subscriber to the Council For Statehood which is headed up by Mrs. MARY M. DAVISON, West Palm Beach, Florida.

Their group is campaigning for a constitutional convention so that the necessary changes can be effected to give back to the individual states a voice in the United States Government. Their main objectives are to get the United States out of the United Nations, establish state courts whose decisions will not be subject to review and reversal by the Supreme Court and to effect fair apportionment. (u)

Their organization is opposed to any type of violence and are only endeavoring to accomplish their objectives through legal procedures. As a result they have succeeded in having several states which have already passed on and approved their objectives.

She has never heard of anyone in the organization advocating violence of any kind.

- 86 -

On 6/17/63 at Fort Lauderdale, Florida File # Miami 157-739

by SAs JOSEPH I. GREALY & [redacted] Date dictated 6/17/63

[redacted] mgw

Date June 27, 1963

[redacted]
Miami, Florida, advised that there is no such organization as the "Council for Statehood." She stated that a group of people merely subscribe and sponsor an information letter titled "Council for Statehood." [redacted] stated that the purpose of the "Council" is to inform various legislators of any deviation from the United States Constitution and to keep this group of legislators apprised of current legislative and political trends.

[redacted] said that neither she, nor the Council, advocates any form of violence to attain their purpose of being a source of information to various legislators. She stated that she had no idea how many subscribers to the Council's letter there are in the Miami area and further stated that she holds no position, either elective or appointive in the Council.

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On 6/21/63 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 157-739
by SA [redacted] and
SA FRANCIS J. MC CARRON:bjc Date dictated 6/25/63

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WILLIAM H. HARSHA
9TH DISTRICT, OHIO

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

June 28, 1958

8310

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

There is enclosed herewith a copy of a letter which I have received from a constituent, [redacted] requesting information concerning two organizations: Action for Americans and Council for Statehood.

I would appreciate it if you would look into this matter and let me have any information available in connection with these two groups so that I may respond to my constituent's letter.

Thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,

William H. Harsha
Representative in Congress

WHH:tp

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ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

157-758-61

KIMBLE, SCHAPIRO, STEVENS, HARSHA & HARCHA

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW
600 NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

PHONE EL 5-8130

B. F. KIMBLE (1874-1962)
LAURENCE M. KIMBLE
ARONHOLD C. SCHAPIRO
RALPH A. STEVENS
WILLIAM H. HARSHA, JR.
HOWARD H. HARCHA, JR.
RONALD E. MCCOWEN
WILLIAM T. MILLER
JACK D. YOUNG

June 24, 1963

JUN

Honorable William H. Harsha
Congressman, 5th District
Room 1338, New House Office Bldg
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Bill:

I have been placed on the Committee on Legion Post to investigate some letters severely criticizing Congress and the Administration of the Supreme Court. The letters are from Action for Americans, P. O. Box 5764, Columbus 21, Ohio and signed by [redacted] and others are from Council for Statehood 710 Summitt Blvd., P.O. Box 1525, West Palm Beach, Florida, Mary M. Davidson. One is signed [redacted] Attorney at Law, [redacted] Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

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I am wondering if the F. B. I. or the house committee on Un-American Activities has any information on these organizations or these papers.

The Post referred this matter to a committee consisting of [redacted] on last Thursday night and I would appreciate your giving me such information as you can.

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Very truly yours,

[redacted]

ACS/sd

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Lee XEROX

JUN 15 1963

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 7-3-63

FROM : D. C. Morrell

8308

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM H. HARSHA
REPUBLICAN - OHIO

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

Congressman Harsha, with whom we have had limited cordial relations, wrote June 28th and enclosed a copy of a letter he received from his constituent, [redacted] stated he had been placed on "the Committee on Legion Post" to investigate some letters severely criticizing Congress and the administration of the Supreme Court. The letters are from Action for Americans, Post Office Box 5764, Columbus 21, Ohio, and from Council for Statehood, 710 Summitt Boulevard, West Palm Beach, Florida.

He wonders if the FBI or the House Committee on Un-American Activities has any information concerning these organizations. Congressman Harsha asked that he be furnished any information available.

Bufiles contain no information identifiable with Action for Americans.

We are presently investigating as a Racial Matters investigation, Council for Statehood. This organization, also known as "Freemen" was allegedly organized in Florida as an action group to take any necessary action, including force if necessary, to eliminate all Jewish people who hold high positions in business and government and eliminate all Jews who are communists. Certain members of the organization allegedly have a supply of carbines. The organization allegedly uses the word "Eskimo" in referring to Jewish persons and one member has allegedly stated "making speeches is all right, but the only way to obtain results is to use the carbines to knock off the Eskimos."

EX-136 REC-26 62
Bufiles contain no derogatory information concerning [redacted] He wrote the Director in February, 1960, regarding statistics and was sent a Uniform Crime Reports bulletin with the Director's acknowledgment on 2-17-60. In 1937 he wrote the Cincinnati Office regarding a mail fraud and was referred to the Post Office Department.

- 1 - Mr. Tolson - Enclosures
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosures
- 1 - M. A. Jones - Enclosures

JUL 12 1963

JM:jks (4)

XEROX

JUL 15 1963

CONFIDENTIAL

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Morrell to DeLoach memorandum
Re: Congressman William H. Harsha

8309

OBSERVATION:

Since Council for Statehood is presently under investigation, we would not want to furnish [] information concerning it. There appears to be no reason why Congressman Harsha could not be confidentially advised that we have not investigated Action for Americans and that Council for Statehood has come to our attention and is believed to be an organization aimed at removing Jewish people from important positions. However, we would not want to go into detail concerning the organization's alleged desire to use force as preferred methods to achieve the ends desired.

RECOMMENDATION:

That someone in your (Mr. DeLoach) office contact Congressman Harsha or a member of his staff and confidentially advise as indicated.

WRC

DeLoach
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JPH
7/13

G.H.
K

Handled with Sec.
7/5/63
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FBI

Date: 8/19/63

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via **AIRTEL** _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-758) **8307**
FROM: SAC, NEW HAVEN (157-385) (RUC)
SUBJECT: COUNCIL FOR STATEHOOD, aka
RACIAL MATTERS
IS - X

Re Miami airtel dated 6/25/63.

On 8/19/63, [redacted] Norwalk, Conn.,
advised SA WILLIAM C. BRADSHAW that Mr. and Mrs. WALTER JACKSON
returned to their Florida home about two weeks ago.

No further action contemplated by New Haven.

Miami conduct interview set forth in referenced airtel.

3 - Bureau (RM)
2 - Miami (RM)
1 - New Haven
WCB/hmg
(6)

EX 104

REC-6

AUG 20 1963

G. D. WICK

55 AUG 28 1963

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

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